



Sam Brownback

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BROWNBACK ISSUES STATEMENT ON SITUATION IN PAKISTAN

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, today made the following statement in the wake of the situation in Pakistan.

“The press is reporting that the democratically elected government of Pakistan is in the process of being removed from power by an army coup d'etat,” Brownback said. “Pakistan television has reported that the government of Prime Minister Nowaz Sharif has been ‘dismissed’ by former chief of Army Staff General Pervez Musharraf and that Mr. Sharif and Lieutenant General Khawaja Ziauddin, who had been appointed the new Chief of Army Staff by the Prime Minister earlier today, are both believed to be under effective house arrest.

“Pakistan is an important ally of the United States and a vital lynchpin for security in South Asia; I am profoundly concerned about the instability of this nation. Friends of Pakistan in the United States have worked consistently to assist Pakistan in rebuilding its economy and enhancing its security. If reports of a coup d'etat are correct, this will be a serious blow to these efforts. I urge the restoration of the democratically elected government and constitutional order,” Brownback said.